

LAMBDA

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(the Lambda)*

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LU students protest cuts

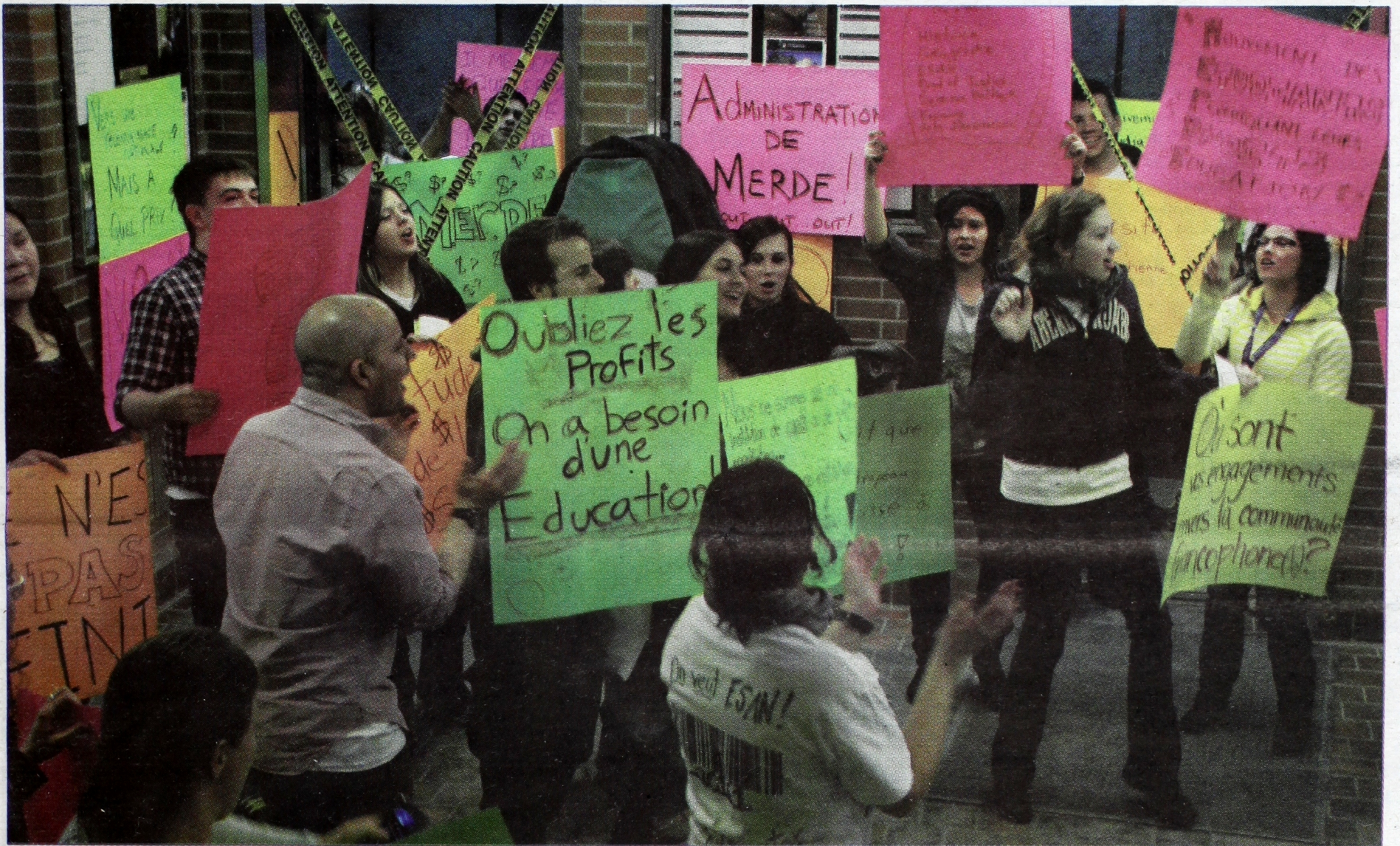


Photo by V. A. Stranges

Protesters block the elevators and hold signs in the Parker Building lobby in response to possible cuts to Francophone programs at Laurentian University.

BY V. A. STRANGES

Upset over potential cuts to French courses, Francophone students carried a coffin draped with the Franco-Ontarian flag through Parker Building Tuesday afternoon. Chanting "Ole, Ole, Ole Français," they occupied the lobby of the Parker Building, occupying two elevators and encouraging passing students and faculty to join in.

Stephanie Albert, who helped coordinate the students' protest expressed her frustration at not being able to finish her degree at Laurentian in the language of her choice.

"They've cut the third year programs in French, so I can't complete my degree in my language of choice."

According to Albert, this breaks "Laurentian's promise to the students" as many students will have to resign themselves to less choice of elective classes.

"I made a decision to come to Laurentian because I could choose from its French programs,

not to be told 'I can't.'"

After bringing elevator traffic to a standstill, students climbed eleven flights of stairs to protest inside the Senate Chamber during a Senate meeting.

Two security guards monitored the senate doors, while two other guards trailed the protesters on their march.

Michel Laforge, editor of L'Original déchainé, said "with the support of Laurentian's Francophone population, we have been planning this protest for about a month." But at no time, Laforge said, did the administration contact Laurentian's Francophone newspaper.

Despite the simmering objections to these cuts, Chief of Staff Chris Mercer said that he heard about the protest "only at lunch."

But these concerns "are always welcome," said Mercer, "because we're a place of discussion, a place of dialogue and question, and even though we don't always

see eye to eye, we welcome the students' concerns."

Under further scrutiny from Rahemtalla, VP and Provost Robert Kerr said that he has never "made any cuts to a program," which brought stifled jeers from the protesters.

After leaving their picket signs at the chamber door, the protesters filled the room, lining the walls behind the seated senators. The protester's presence elicited many comments from the speakers, who often thanked the students for their vocal opposition to the proposed cutbacks.

Vice President and Provost Robert Kerr reminded those in attendance that they were not voting on the budget, merely recommendations to the budget.

Graduate Student Representative Rafiq Rahemtalla then asked "but if these students

are concerned about proposed cuts, why is it being brought to the Senate only now?"

Under further scrutiny from Rahemtalla, VP and Provost Robert Kerr said that he has never "made any cuts to a program" which brought stifled jeers from the protesters.

"Then why," asked Rahemtalla, pointing to the protesters, "are they here?"

President Dominic Giroux thanked the students for their passion and concern, saying "when I hear that class 'X' is no longer being offered, I take that very seriously."

In Giroux's eyes, the protest was made up of "a group of concerned students who really were just looking for answers to questions with respect to french-language programming at Laurentian."

He added, "Some of the questions, we could absolutely answer and did so."

As an example, Giroux said, "One of the four priority

areas outlined in the updated academic plan is the support for french-language programs and the bilingual mandate of Laurentian."

He added that his administration looks at each program "on a course-by-course basis" and is committed to retaining Francophone students.

"Even though we understand the challenges, we still have to take into consideration the increase in operating costs," Giroux said.

As faculty salaries increased over the past ten years, Giroux said, the enrollment stayed level while government funding did not increase. Over time, the administration will be faced with the challenge of a deficit.

But student Zach Courtemarche, a senate representative of the SGA, asked, "With all the talk of challenges, why isn't anybody offering any solutions?"

(For a more in-depth piece on the protest, see page 5) lambda@laurentian.ca

SGA changes and the game of politics

Regardless of all the inner workings and oratory skill, the most important question in politics is "Who holds the power?"

In the case of the SGA, it could be argued that the executive director is the most powerful person in the office, behind the executive.

A quick glance at the SGA's constitution and bylaws will reassure anyone of that.

The executive director has control of the true power behind any organization: money.

The SGA constitution states: "All cheques, bills of exchange, or other notes of payment of money issued in the name of the SGA/AGE must be signed by the Executive Director and President."

She signed our cheques here at the Lambda, as well.

It's important to note that the SGA hires the executive director, and it is well within their power to terminate the person.

So, why is any of this important to you?

The SGA's executive director, Deborah Frankel, has been let go by the SGA executive. Frankel worked closely with CKLU for years before taking on the role with SGA, turning the once-struggling radio station into an interesting, engaging station. Sources who worked for the station during her stay, credit her for the turn around.

"In the case of the SGA, it could be argued that the executive director is the most powerful person in the office, behind the executive."

One has to think that made her a logical choice for the SGA job.

The first time I met "Deb," she called me out on stories, challenged my paper and asked hard questions. I admired it, even if it was a difficult first meeting, which left an interesting first impression (to say the least).

I felt like a whirlwind had ravaged our office. Callam and I both had a moment of sheer "WTF?" when she left with a handshake and a "let's work together" smile.

It was the first time I had met our general manager, Casey, as well.

That management decision to hire him, straight from Deb, has proved invaluable.

Deb was a master of getting things done and driving change.

Whether it was funding or getting permission for something, it was never a



ED VAILLEUX

question of "will Deb help the Lambda," but a question of "how much can she help us this time?"

I wasn't in the boardroom the night she was let go, so I can't say whether or not her end at the SGA was justified.

But, I will say after several days and nights, and many meetings later, the Lambda is still not sure how this change is going to affect us.

It will also affect our sister, CKLU. It will affect all of the SGA. All Laurentian students.

According to SGA President Samantha Pitzel, the decision to end Frankel's contract was made at an in-camera (behind closed doors) executive meeting. The meeting took place the week of Jan. 26. It was then discussed again at an in-camera portion of the last board meeting.

That being said, minutes for both meetings are not available to the public or the media.

"It was a sensitive personnel issue and thus we are within our rights to hold such discussions at closed meetings," Pitzel said.

As far as why the decision was made, she added, "the decision was made because we are reevaluating the parameters of the position."

Furthermore, the SGA "will be hiring soon for a new position: the executive

administrator," she said.

With the financial year ending April 30 for the SGA, it's an odd time to make a personnel switch and to reformat such an important position.

Surely, Frankel hadn't done anything (in the public eye) worthy of immediate dismissal before the wrap-up of this financial year, or before the end of classes for the term and year.

If she did, it hasn't been talked about publicly, and has not been commented on.

With politics, the second most important thing to keep in mind is "The public has no idea what happens behind closed doors."

In terms of the role of the executive director (soon to be the executive administrator), Pitzel added, "The executive director's power, such as it is, derives from the executive. He or she has always been a staff member employed by the SGA, reporting to the executive, which in turn reports to the SGA Board."

Politics is, and always has been, a power game.

This decision isn't motivated by money,

Pitzel added, "I will reassure you that the layoff was not done for budgetary reasons."

This decision comes from the "power rule" (re-read the lead of editorial).

The new position will have a different range of powers and authority, according to Pitzel.

What power and authority, you ask? One can imagine the new role will have less of both.

I guess we're all due to find out what changes this way come.

Deb found out the hard way.

To her credit, she never tried to change what we covered and never criticized us for not running something she had suggested we look into.

She left us to our own devices, to run our paper (as Pitzel has also given us the nod to do, saying the change won't affect us).

Here's to hoping.

Deb was contacted for comment, via telephone and email. She could not be reached.

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Bryceson Dodge
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Goals: become the president of a dynamic public company.

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LETTERS:

Lambda reserves the right to edit content before we print it. Letters of a harassing, hateful or slanderous nature will be dealt with by proper authorities.

Laurentian community raises \$5,430 for Literacy

BY ED VILLEUX

Despite being the smallest university taking part, and having not participated last year, Laurentian raised the most money in this year's Live-In for Literacy campaign.

For a week, Hannah Thompson and Sarah Williams ate, slept and spent time in the library, sleeping in a tent, to raise funds for literacy. The goal for Laurentian University was to raise \$4,000.

Laurentian ended up raising \$5,430.

The experience will be fondly remembered by both campers.

"It was actually a lot of fun," Thompson, a history student, said. "It was easier than I thought it would be. By the sixth day we were kind of exhausted and wanting to go home and feeling the inconvenience of it all. But, for the rest of the time it was great."

Williams, a second-year anthropology student, added, "We just had a great time. During the day, talking to students, it was enjoyable. (And) at night, hanging out with each other was a lot of fun."

Thompson said the campaign results made her "feel good to be at Laurentian. Some of my profs actually saw my picture and came to see us. Sarah's, as well. It was nice because you know you wouldn't get that kind of support anywhere else. My profs would



Photo supplied

Hannah Thompson (left) and Sarah Williams hold a cheque from the SGA for the Charity Ball. The event raised \$2,000 for the Live-In for Literacy campaign.

come and say 'Hannah, I noticed you were on a poster, how can I help?'

But, it wasn't all roses, the two agreed.

"The worst thing about is was the lack of showers," Williams said.

Thompson joked, "That was hard, but it was probably hard for

everyone else too."

The two were allowed to attend their classes, but had replacement campers filling in for them, collecting donations and raising awareness.

The amount of support from the Laurentian community, and the time needed to address it, surprised the campers.

"It was actually a lot busier than I thought it would be, talking to students," Thompson said. "It was actually a pretty full-time job. There was an overwhelming amount of people that came to our table."

There were times, Williams added, that she would develop a headache from talking to people

just an hour-and-a-half into talking to people for the day.

Thompson appreciated the amount of different perspectives on the issue of literacy and the campaign and the diverse ideas that people brought up in conversation, along with meeting all kinds of new people around the campus.

"You never get to meet that many people in that short a span of time," Thompson said.

The response from students and faculty alike was positive, according to both campers.

The live-in took place from Jan. 27 to Feb. 3. During the day, the two students were in front of the library, collecting donations and raising awareness. At night, they were locked in the library.

This is the second time the event has happened at Laurentian. The event began five years ago at Queen's University, and now boasts 10 universities who take part.

This year's national goal was \$27,000, which would have been put towards building six libraries in India.

Together, the 10 universities fell short of the goal, raising roughly \$25,000.

Williams and Thompson are unsure how that will impact the plan to build the six libraries.

The schools will be built using local (Indian) workers, and will be taught in by local teachers in a local language, Williams said. eddy_villeux@hotmail.com

Student unfairly evicted from rez

OPINION
BY CALLAM RODYA

Meron Tecle just wanted to throw a birthday party for his good friend. Instead, he got more than he bargained for.

Tecle was evicted from UC Residence last week after a failed appeal attempt. It stems from an incident in West Residence on Jan. 15 when about 20 students had gathered in an apartment on the fifth floor.

Tecle had organized the birthday celebration where an exotic dancer had been hired as entertainment.

Originally, the party was to be held in a UC common room, but after Tecle was warned by an R.A. that it wouldn't be permitted, the party was moved to the private West apartment.

Initially, Tecle intended for it to be a small party. However, word got out, and the number of guests quickly swelled.

At approximately 1 a.m., the party was interrupted by Residence Assistants during a floor sweep. The guests scattered, and the celebration was cut short.

Later that week, Tecle received a letter from Joseph McGibbon, the Residence Life Director, alerting him that he was facing eviction.

The letter noted six infractions of the Residence Community Standards, the regulations that govern life in residence, that justified Tecle's eviction including indecent exposure, disrespect for others

including staff, and advertising an event involving alcohol.

Tecle argues that a private residence room should not be subject to regulations of indecent exposure, nor was the party advertised. Alcohol was present, but was not sold and was being consumed responsibly.

Laurentian Residence, though not bound by the Ontario Landlord and Tenant Act the way an apartment complex is, was able to evict Meron Tecle from his campus residence in just over two weeks without any kind of public scrutiny.

As for disrespect for staff members, he maintains he was perfectly respectful when dealing with the R.A.'s he encountered.

Tecle spoke to Lambda knowing full well that we would make every effort to verify his story and give the Residence Life Office an appropriate window in which to respond and state their case for Tecle's eviction.

This story was to run in our last issue. Unfortunately, Joseph McGibbon and the Residence Life Office have repeatedly denied our requests for comment and we

were not able to put together a story that satisfied our own standards of responsible journalism.

Two weeks later, the RLO is still unwilling to comment about the story.

Not only did Tecle face a harsh punishment, he was the only individual involved in the party that faced any kind of disciplinary action. No other persons involved, including the resident of the West apartment, received any kind of reprimand.

SGA President Samantha Pitzel defended Tecle in an email statement to Lambda.

"Meron may not have used the best judgement, but he broke no existing University policies or federal or provincial laws," she wrote. "A combination of peripherally-related charges were brought against him in order to make him into a scapegoat."

She went on to discuss the realities of living on campus.

"There is very little regulation concerning universities as landlords and it's really tough to hold the school accountable," Pitzel wrote.

As a newspaper, we strive to cover all sides of a story. We believe we have made every attempt to do so this time, but as a result of the RLO's silence on this matter, it becomes extremely difficult to paint the

broad strokes.

One would expect a level of transparency in eviction proceedings, especially in the middle of an academic year and during the height of winter. However, we can find no transparency whatsoever in this particular matter on the part of the Residence Life Office and as such, we are forced to question whether Meron Tecle was justifiably-evicted from his UC residence in February.

We have no way of verifying the RLO's claims against him.

Was Meron Tecle evicted because he organized a birthday party in residence involving an exotic dancer? We cannot say for certain. On paper, certainly we can concede that disciplinary action against him was warranted. But we cannot certify that his eviction was warranted, given what we know about the case.

In Ontario, a residential eviction is a process involving public tribunals, hearings, and opportunities for appeal, and generally takes months. Laurentian Residence, though not bound by the Ontario Landlord and Tenant Act the way an apartment complex is, was able to evict Meron Tecle from his campus residence in just over two weeks without any kind of public scrutiny.

Should we not expect more from a place of higher education?
lambdaSpotlight@gmail.com

Trying some salsa



Photo by Paulina Siller

Chelsea Ross (left) and Williane Kenyamuneza share a dance, while learning to salsa. The event was put on by the Hispanic Club LU on Feb. 4.

Airbandz for Cancer raises \$18,000

BY CALLAM RODYA

On Saturday, Feb. 5, Laurentian's Frasier Auditorium played host to the eighth annual Airbandz for Cancer fundraising event.

Groups of LU residence students lip-synced to montages of pop songs with elaborate dance routines and light shows as a crowd of over 400 cheered them on.

The event raised \$18,000 for the Northern Cancer Research Foundation (NCRF), bringing the total from past Airbandz events up to over \$100,000 over eight years.

First place in the competition went to The Brotherhood, with Wayback Playback earning second, and The Dirty Rascals placing third.

The judging panel was made of of LU president Dominic Giroux, alumni members Bas Gohar and Matt Ray, and the NCRF's executive director Tannys Laughren.

They scored the participants on their creativity as well as their overall appeal. lambdaSpotlight@gmail.com

New site: TheLambda.ca

BY CALLAM RODYA

Recently, Lambda established a brand new online presence: TheLambda.ca.

Sure, we basically just moved our Wordpress blog over to the new domain. But our new website is so much more than that.

TheLambda.ca will now cover the breaking stories that just don't make it into the bi-weekly print publication. These are the stories that are important to you today, but might have fizzled out by the time the next issue of Lambda comes off the press.

Visit TheLambda.ca today and go beyond the newspaper edition of the Lambda brand. Become a fan of Lambda on Facebook to get

regular article postings in your news feed.

One more thing: story tips are the lifeblood of newspapers. Without them, we don't always know where to look for the news, and if there's one thing we at Lambda hate it's missing a good story.

Our new website now features an anonymous news tip form so you can give us the heads up without showing your face or giving your name. Most of the biggest news stories ever uncovered have been the result of anonymous sourcing and tips, so we take this stuff seriously!

Visit TheLambda.ca today - Laurentian University's official valentine! lambdaSpotlight@gmail.com

Local climate change lobby group launches

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

When Sudburians think about the mining city they live in, it probably isn't common to think of green energy technology and climate change.

Cathy Orlando, science outreach coordinator at Laurentian University, is hoping to change that.

Orlando is involved with launching the local chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby.

"We have 20 members in Sudbury's Citizens Climate Lobby," Orlando says.

"They're from a wide range of backgrounds from age 13 to senior citizens, first nations, francophone, students."

Eight of the 20 members are associated with Laurentian University, according to Orlando.

The Lobby has lofty goals in mind, Orlando says.

"The goal of the Citizens Climate Lobby is to create a political will for a stable climate," Orlando says.

"People really do want action on climate change, and we're up against some pretty formidable forces with the fossil fuel industry."

Cathy Orlando, LU science outreach coordinator

"One of the things they do is empower people to have breakthroughs in their personal and political power."

The Lobby takes a two-pronged approach, trained to talk to politicians and to work with the media, according to Orlando.

Orlando believes that citizens

are ready for change when it comes to political climate issues. She argues they are up against some stiff competition.

"People really do want action on climate change, and we're up against some pretty formidable forces with the fossil fuel industry," Orlando says.

"The fossil fuel industry, and various invested interests, have spent billions of dollars lying to us about climate change."

Orlando believes it is possible for the Lobby to stand up against the anti-climate change lobbyists, and the key lies in telling the truth.

"We're up against forces that will lie, and we just have to keep hammering the truth back at everyone," Orlando says.

"Climate change, if left unchecked is costing billions and billions of dollars, in which we'll have to invest even more to undo the harm."

The important of climate groups is their ability to empower the youth, according to Orlando.

"This is empowering young people to speak up, and start talking, and calling people out on being dumbasses with regard to the climate," Orlando says.

Marshall Saunders, a climate change activist who was awarded the 2009 Grameen Foundation Humanitarian Award, will be visiting Laurentian campus to speak to the Sudbury chapter.

He is the founder of Citizens Climate Lobby, and like Orlando, was trained by Al Gore.

The meeting kicks off Feb. 12 at 11 AM in room FA181.

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Eleventh floor engagement

BY V. A. STRANGES

The eleventh floor of LU's Parker building is a world away. Here, in its crystalline foyer, a visitor could feel they were removed from the day-to-day drudgery of academia.

Here, hypnotized by the view of an ice-covered Ramsey Lake, a visitor could forget, if momentarily, the concrete halls and the pigeon coop classrooms below. One could feel detached. A visitor could forget the path they took to the eleventh floor, and the students they encountered along the way.

Students, with heads bowed, wander the halls, thumbs poking Smartphones. A visitor to eleven could feel resentment at these students, their sneers, their apathy, their veneer, irony, their sarcasm.

A visitor to eleven could refer to them as Generation Y or Generation Z or Generation Me or Generation Wii and scoff at their scraggly beards, loose knit toques, or Kenji tattoos. You could probably spend many days up on the eleventh floor and not see one student face-to-face, not remember one name.

One could disengage.

Today, however, there is a group of students who demand engagement. Way down below, far down, eleven floors down, actually. They've sealed the doors of the elevators with caution tape. They've occupied the lobby of the Parker Building, blocked the entrance to administration offices.

Their signs are quite clear. "Can't read this? That's Because Laurentian U doesn't like French Programs." or "President Giroux: We Need Education."

Their engagement with the Eleventh Floor has begun.

It's thirty minutes until the Senate meeting. Up on Eleven, a snowy sunlight streams into the lobby. It's a cold light, reflecting off the lake, the kind you get on February days here in Sudbury. It adds to the clean and quiet feeling of Eleven. Four Laurentian security guards form a tight circle outside the door of the Chamber. They drop their voices as you approach. Chief of Staff Chris Mercer strides past the guards into the lobby, greets you with a firm handshake, warm smile, calls you by your first name. From his easy demeanour, you wouldn't know there is dissent below. In fact, if it were not for the extra security, or the nervous glances, it would be work as usual on Eleven. Mercer, characteristically composed, suggests that any stories of a student uprising are just that: anecdotal. Nothing has been seen. And the extra security?

"To be fair, with the proposed attendance at tonight's senate, these would be exceptional circumstances."

So, information does filter up to Eleven. But how fast?

Mercer admits he heard news of the protest around lunch.

"Once we hear their concerns, we'll be able to comment. But I do know that Laurentian offers thirty-five courses in French, and upon approval, is about to increase them by two."

Do you think the Senate will listen to the students?

"Senate has a protocol, there (are) rules governing how concerns are brought to the table. But yes, it's always interesting to hear what they say."

"This university is a place of discussion. If we can't raise issues here, where can we?"

Laurentian University Chief of Staff Chris Mercer

Senators shuffle into the lobby. The chamber itself is sparse. A lone conference table fills the bare room. No pictures on the plaster walls. No grand murals. No portraits of lofty governors. This chamber is a place devoid of distraction. A place of business. Senators arrive. Professors, mostly. There's VP Robert Kerr and Dr. Persinger with his three piece suit and pocket chain. Zachary Courtemarche's bright eyes scan the chamber, like a mischievous youngest child. There's VP Patrice Sawyer and Professor Ricketts, Elizabeth Dawes and Ashley Thomson and the regal Prof. Kapanga with his deep baritone voice, sitting at the end of the table, greeting his colleagues. Bill from Media Services snakes microphone cables the length of the table. Guards fold back into the lobby, allowing free passage. Staff unstacks chairs from a dusty corner of the room. There are some expectations for the chamber this evening. There is something happening. And then, the engagement.

It begins with a muffled beat.

Far off trains and children's voices. Senators take their seats at the table. Eyes dart to the chamber doors which open into the lobby. The rumbles increase. They're gaining the stairs. You can feel the throb vibrate through the legs of the chair you're sitting in. You notice President Dominic Giroux. He's in the lobby, staring into two TV cameras, bright halogen lights trained on him. The drums get closer, the floor beats louder. They've taken the stairwell, Lieutenant! And the mob sounds like it's going to shoot through the floor.

Then silence. Some nervous grins about the room. Was that the worst of it? Where are they?

As if to answer the common question. The protesters emerge. The doors bust open. Six students carry a coffin draped in the Franco-Ontarian flag and chanting "Ole, Ole, Ole" through a 40-watt megaphone. Twenty others wield florescent picket signs and file into the chamber. Yes, tattoos and scraggly hair on some. Yes, a look of defiance in

the eyes of others. Yes, students. But not the disengaged. These are not the ones normally encountered on Eleven. Not since the Giroux Administration took over. This is the Wild Bunch, ready to take on the world. This is the War Committee, Lieutenant, and they've just taken the chamber. They surround the conference table and each one stands behind a senator. Looms behind them. Their white t-shirts are silk screened with UPC bar codes on the back. They are just numbers, yes? Just students, yes? A generation of the disengaged, yes?

President Giroux takes a seat

at the head of the table next to speaker Ashley Thomson. You notice that between Thomson and Giroux, this is just another hiccup in another quirky day. Composed, nonplussed, and what is that expression on Dominic's face? And what is that? A grin? A smile? Who is this guy? Fifty angry students have stormed the tower and occupied the chamber, HIS chamber, and stand before the microphones and twenty silent senators, and they demand engagement. Is the president ready to provoke them?

Renee Lauzon, a student representative to the Senate, leans into her microphone and tells the President quite clearly, en francais, "I chose Laurentian. Not Moncton or Ottawa or Western. I chose Laurentian. I chose French. Now, you're taking this choice away from me."

Giroux nods. Thomson points to Patrice Sawyer, Vice President of Francophone Affairs, who handles this question. Directs the senators to page four, item number two. Senators simultaneously rustle a six-page document in front of them. A cool strategic move, Mr. President, diffuse a hard question with a good speaker. Nothing excited in Sawyer's voice, nothing responsive. Don't play their game. Slow them down. Look! Even the administrators in the back row are shuffling their feet. They're bored, Mr. President! You've lulled them!

SGA representative Zach Courtemarche then poses the question. "In this document, I'm seeing the word 'challenges' thrown out there more than the word 'solutions'...why do we have to ask the departments to cut to the core, and cut what a university is? And should these students here be afraid?"

The protesters nod emphatically and shout "yeah!"

The President points to Robert Kerr, Provost of the university, who leans into the microphone and in his elegant British accent begins with "In terms of the budget, what I was referring to was a change in circumstance..." and steadily goes downhill. Between deep, slow, pauses, Dr. Kerr diplomatically refers to "one

must make these decisions" and "solutions to issues" and "less of an impact on the budget..." and "when one is trying to plan it is not to suggest that there are not potential solutions to this.. but one has to be aware..." and you're not sure if the sentence is finished or if a new thought has begun or if his pauses are to help the interpreters catch up...but then you get it! Somewhere between one of the good Doctor's long pauses, the idea gets you! The President has done it again! He's slowed down the pace! It's Giroux who controls the game! He's effectively diffused the student's onrush by placing the puck with his best stickhandler...they're running the clock! Point taken, Mr. President.

However, a slight problem emerges...

it seems the students' energy has seeped into the room and has influenced some of the senators around the conference table. Sitting to Kerr's immediate left is Graduate Student Representative Rafiq Rahemtalla. Tall, dark, rakish, resembling Cap'n Jack Sparrow sailing defiantly into harbour, Rafiq turns to face Kerr and asks, point blank, like it's time to get serious, boys, this question: "If there are no cutbacks. Why are these students here? Can you give them an answer? Why?"

From back in his own zone, the stickhandler replies, "We will make every effort to ensure that students can complete their degree. If there are any classes to be cut, they will go through the formal process, and Senate will be notified."

Not exactly what the protestors are after, but it's a start. It's hard to argue with the concept.

"What about suspending enrollment?" asks the Cap'n:

"If there are any issues around suspension of enrollment they will come up, but at this moment in time, I do not know of any such notice before the senate."

"Have you suspended any enrollment?"

"I have not suspended enrollment of any programs."

Again, then, "Why are the students here?"

A roar from the students, Senators around the table nod, some tap the table in support, then hide their hands under table, because nobody wants to admit to getting caught up in all of this. Remain calm. Govern thy passions. Disengage.

Kerr responds, "...one has to be aware, that this year's statistics of application to university are relatively flat so that raises the question of whether we will see..." and is immediately heckled by one student standing across the table. The heckle comes in the form of a disgruntled, impatient "Oh, come on..." which is akin

to handing Kerr a two-minute misconduct for delay of game.

The staff from L'Original déchaîné, Laurentian's Francophone newspaper, seat themselves near the chamber room window.

Michel Laforge, the paper's editor, shakes his head, makes a PFFFT sound with his lips.

Tempers are rising in the chamber room. The stickhandler's being pressured and his legs are tiring. Kerr's response is being drowned out by the kids, some shuffling from the back of the room. The protestors have turned their backs, displaying the UPC bar code on their T-shirts. They are just numbers. Message delivered.

But then Ashely Thomson points out, somewhat surprised, that President Giroux would like to respond. The students wait. **The table is silent.**

"Let me give a little context to the budget process to address some of the students' concerns. The budget keeps going up. Faculty salaries go up every year. That's nothing we're going to shy away from, but it's a reality. The cutbacks are not across the board. We look at each program, discipline by discipline, program by program. And make decisions that way..."

Giroux continued: "Obviously, this raises concerns. And rightly so." Here, the President glances over at the organizers of the protests, and nods. It's a slight glance, and a slight nod, barely perceptible. But it's there.

"When I hear concerns from students that course 'X' is no longer being offered, I take that seriously. When I hear it from faculty and department heads, I take that seriously, too. But we have a solution. We have a solution for program structure... we have to look broader, beyond the context of the departments... we have to look at the most flexible way of delivering the courses to students...so yes, we have solutions...but it's a mathematical issue...budgets go up, salaries go up...enrollment stays the same, funding remains the same. That's our challenge, but something we have a solution for."

Not exactly what the protestors are after, but it's a start. It's hard to argue with the concept.

The meeting ends shortly after.

The Senators pick up their documents, some of the students file out of chamber, back down the eleven flights, back to their studies in the pigeon-coop rooms. I manage to catch Chris Mercer one last time before the chamber reports. I ask him, "looks bad for the university if the French students are up in arms. You worried about seeing more actions like this?"

"This university is a place of discussion," Chris replies, "and if we can't raise issues here, where can we?"

lambda@laurentian.ca

Remembering Aimee Leonard

BY CALLAM RODYA

Laurentian University graduate and Sudbury music scene mainstay, Aimee Leonard, was remembered in two separate services in Sudbury over the weekend.

Leonard, 27, and her unborn daughter, Maren Elizabeth, died unexpectedly at their home in Ottawa on Jan. 29.

A graduate of Laurentian's music program, Leonard released an independent album entitled

What Happened, performed at various folk and music festivals, including Sudbury's Northern

Lights Festival Boreal, and was featured by CBC Radio 3. She was also a frequent performer at the Townehouse Tavern and even performed with the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra.

Her father, Robert Leonard, spoke of her long-time love of music.

"She always loved music, always wanted to sing," he told local media. "She was five years

old when she started piano lessons. She asked for that."

A Facebook group created in her memory has been inundated with expressions of grief over

Leonard's passing.

Over 150 people attended a service at Bryston's on the Park in Copper Cliff on Feb. 5.

An equally well-attended event, "A Song for Aimee" was held Sunday afternoon, Feb. 6 at the Townehouse. Friends and fans alike shared songs and memories of who they all agreed was a larger-than-life artist.

The Leonard family has established the Aimee Leonard Memorial Music Bursary in her memory.

Donations can be made through Laurentian University.

On a personal note, I would like to express my own sadness at the loss of such an incredible person.

Aimee was one of the bravest women I have ever known, both

as a individual and as an artist.

She was a fearless performer and her creativity knew no bounds. There is a rare breed of creative talent whose sheer magnificence is utterly shocking and whose mastery captivates your

soul - an artist with superpowers. Aimee was one of them.

She was a brilliant artist and the world is a better place by having been touched by her creativity. And in many ways, she was too big for it - the world could not hope to contain her spirit.

I will forever remember her as an actor, a musician, and as a friend. If I could but possess half of her fearless presence and energy, and freedom of spirit, I would be eternally blessed.

Goodnight, Aimee. I know you are out there somewhere - you and Maren - enchanting the heavens with the melody of your soul.

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Photos supplied



Valentine's Day thoughts and ideas

BY CALLAM RODYA

Whether you're a hopeless romantic or you think Valentine's Day is just another corporate concoction to hock flowers, Hallmark cards, and Ferrero Rocher, it's one of those days where a lot of us feel compelled to spend a little time, energy, and yes, money.

Well, fine. Maybe it's good to have a day devoted to love. After all, we can't be expected to keep the romance running year-round. We've got work to do, papers to write, and shows to watch!

If you're one of those individuals who doesn't buy into the Valentine's Day propaganda or just doesn't have any romance in your life right now, this article is not for you. Hey, you're probably one of the lucky ones. Your bank account gets a bit of a break while the rest of us give the plastic in our wallets a workout.

But for the rest of you, here are a few choice selections for Valentine's Day dates that are pleasing to the heart and easy on the balance statement.

Dinner

A nice dinner for two is one of the most tried-and-true staples of Valentine's Day.

Sudbury used to be a barren wasteland of culinary options. Today, we're a little better off. Reality is, there are some really nice options for a nice dinner with a bit of a romantic touch.

My favorite restaurant of the moment is The HourGlass, located literally across the street from the Sudbury Transit Terminal (don't let the location fool you - it's actually a really nice place). The menu is fantastic, the drink selection is extensive, and the service is unparalleled. Best of all, the ambiance is sharp, sophisticated, and urban - perfect for that tailored blazer or little black dress that you never get to wear. You won't find McDonald's prices at The HourGlass, but \$50 will go a long way.

Another excellent Valentine's choice is sushi. Sushi is clean, won't leave you feeling bloated, gassy, or heartburny, and best of all, it is devoid of onion, garlic, and all those other date-ruining objectionable

odors. My favorite sushi spot is Umai, located at 1875 Paris Street. Split a small sushi/sashimi boat and you'll likely find yourselves sharing the leftovers later in bed. Your welcome.

If you're more of a strident carnivore, there is no better choice than The Keg Steakhouse on The Kingsway. Sure, it's a chain restaurant, but try going back for a steak elsewhere after experiencing one of The Keg's masterpieces. Yes, of these three restaurant options, it is definitely the higher-end of the price spectrum, but it is more than worth it.

After Dinner

What to do after dinner? How about a movie? If you've eaten downtown, Rainbow Cinemas is just a few blocks away. They don't advertise it, but did you know that a student movie ticket at Rainbow is only \$3? It's cheaper than renting a movie! Just show your student card when you purchase.

If you're looking for something

live, there's always a musical act at the Townehouse Tavern. There's usually a cover (\$5, give or take) but the drinks are cheap. If you're used to a club atmosphere (like me), the T-Ho takes some getting used to, but the music is good and the crowd is a who's who of Sudbury's arts and culture scene.

How about something outdoorsy? Work off that that Valentine's dinner with a romantic skate on Ramsey Lake or around Queen's Athletic Field. There's nothing quite like skating the 1.8 km of Ramsey Lake under the moonlight. Sound cheesy? Just trust me...

Of course, many simply opt for flowers and chocolates, or even a poem or song written for their love. Those are fine too, and indeed, might be all you need to show your love on Valentine's Day.

But if you want to go the extra distance, hopefully this article will help you along the way.

Happy Valentine's Day!
lambdaspotlight@gmail.com

LU grad helps Boston Pizza give back

BY CALLAM RODYA

Valentine's Day is typically a busy day for restaurants.

For Boston Pizza, just off The Kingsway at 120 Donna Drive, it's their busiest day of the year. So they've devised a way to give back to the community with "Eat Your Heart Out for Charity."

On Feb. 14, the ovens at Sudbury's Boston Pizza location will be serving up heart-shaped pizzas for Valentines Day. One dollar from the sale of each such pizza goes to the Boston Pizza Foundation, the company's own charitable organization.

According to Andrea Crombez, Community Relations

Coordinator at Boston Pizza Sudbury, 50,000 heart-shaped pizzas are sold country-wide on Valentine's Day.

"The Foundation chooses charities to sponsor on a national scale like Heart and Stroke, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, or Kids' Help Phone," said Crombez. "Locally, we get funds filtered to us that we can distribute on a local scale to various charities that we choose to sponsor."

Locally, the restaurant has supported organizations such as the Multiple Sclerosis Society, The Human League, Red Cross, and the Sudbury Action Centre for Youth.



ANDREA CROMBEZ

This year, the company has set the goal of raising \$600,000 nationally for various family-focused charities. The heart-shaped pizzas are just the beginning. Portions from other

menu items like beverages and desserts are also diverted to the foundation.

"Sometimes when you go places, they say 'by the way, do you want to make a donation on top of your meal?'" said Crombez. "This way, simply coming and having a meal, you're already helping to support and make a donation."

If customers want to make a separate donation, they can do that as well with the purchase of a red or pink paper heart. They can then decorate it with a special Valentine's Day message for someone special. The hearts are then posted all over the store.

Crombez herself is a graduate of Laurentian's communications program. She spoke fondly of the experience.

"Your teachers are very hands on with wanting to help you," she said. "I found the opportunity to succeed was a lot greater, especially with the small class sizes."

There about 400 Boston Pizza restaurants Canada-wide. For more information, visit bostonpizza.com.

(With files from V.A. Stranges)
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Warlords of Kandahar: The Nuking of Afghanistan

COLUMN BY ROBERT BECKETT

Have you ever wondered why modern Afghanistan looks like a post-apocalyptic landscape out of 'Mad Max II: The Road Warrior'? Well, the answer can be found in another 1980's movie sequel, 'Rambo III'.

The plot of Rambo III is that John Rambo must rescue his friend who has been captured by the Soviets while smuggling American anti-aircraft missiles to Afghan insurgents. The idea of openly supplying hi-tech weaponry to the Soviet's opponents is incredibly bold (imagine if Russia was now supplying similar missiles to Taliban!), but this was not a wild plot device from a screenwriter's imagination, it was part of the largest covert operation in the America's history.

America's support for Afghan insurgents begins with Zbigniew Brzezinski, Jimmy Carter's National Security Adviser. Brzezinski was a Cold Warrior devoted to the doctrine of inflaming radical Islamic groups until they "exploded into genocidal fury" against the secular Soviet Union. He saw the perfect chance to implement this idea when a 1978 coup in Afghanistan put an extremely unpopular Marxist party into power.

The goals of those Afghan revolutionaries were laudable (female education, land reform, debt forgiveness), but their methods were barbarous and soon tens of thousands of Afghans had been executed or arrested while the country erupted in revolt. Seeing an opportunity Brzezinski and his ideological allies suggested "keeping the Afghan insurgency going, [to] suck the Soviets into

a Vietnam-style quagmire" and on July 3, 1979, Carter signed a presidential directive authorizing "support to Afghan insurgents, either in the form of cash or non-military supplies."

With this directive the CIA initiated a simple plan to secretly supply money and weapons to Afghanistan using Pakistan as a conduit while Saudi Arabia provided matching funds. An expectant Brzezinski wrote a note predicating that "this aid would induce Soviet military intervention" because the USSR could not ignore a Communist country on their borders slipping into anarchy. When the desperate rulers of Afghanistan began begging their reluctant comrades in Russia to intervene, Washington now shared their hope. When six months later, 50,000 Soviet troops rolled across the border to ruthlessly suppress the rebellion, a jubilant Brzezinski promptly sent another note to Carter: "We now have the opportunity of giving the USSR its Vietnam War".

The US's brutal occupation of Vietnam had killed over a million South East Asians and 60,000 Americans, but only four years after its conclusion the White House was now eager to recreate that hell by turning Afghanistan, a poor, but peaceful county that had largely escaped the great bloodbaths of the 20th century, into a breeding ground for monsters. Robert Gates, an architect of this satanic policy now serving as Obama's Secretary of Defence, has candidly stated, "Frankly, we weren't concerned about what post-Soviet Afghanistan was going to look like."

The idea of 'Soviet Vietnam' would migrate from Brzezinski's national security notes to the dialogue of 'Rambo III'. When

Rambo's friend is captured by the Soviets he contemptuously proclaims to his interrogators: "You know there won't be a victory, every day your 'war machines' lose ground to a bunch of poorly armed, poorly equipped freedom fighters. The fact is that you underestimated your competition... They'd rather die than be slaves to an invading army. You can't defeat a people like that. We tried. We already had our Vietnam! Now you're going to have yours."

After a decade of playing the imperial bully in Vietnam, the White House relished the moral high ground throughout the 1980's, Ronald Regan hosted Afghan insurgents in the White House calling them the "moral equivalent of [America's] Founding Fathers" and dedicated a space shuttle launch to their cause. Congress followed suit demanding that a statue be built to the insurgents while a CBS news producer called their struggle "the one morally unambiguous crusade of our time."

Parts of this bizarre spectacle are covered in the film 'Charlie Wilson's War', where Tom Hanks plays the title character, a randy congressman determined to support the Afghan resistance - by arming them with anti-aircraft missiles. This film, like Rambo III, is largely American propaganda, but released in 2007 it cannot avoid hinting at the dark future of Regan's Afghanistan policies: the training and arming of many people now being battled in the current 'War of Terror'.

In order to secure Pakistan's cooperation, America not only had to quietly accept their nuclear program (and Afghanistan's burgeoning opium trade), but it also had to let Pakistan control the insurgent funding and they

favoured radical Islamists. It would be equivalent to a foreign power giving the Westboro Baptist Church (infamous for picketing funerals and their "God Hates..." signs) unlimited funding or buying local mayoral candidate David Popescu his own armed militia - it was disastrous. These same fundamentalist warbands would predictably turn their guns on their fellow Afghans, specifically targeting university professors and feminists, when the Soviets withdrew.

The top two most heavily funded Afghan warlords, Gulbadin Hekmatyar and Jalaluddin Haqqani, are currently killing American soldiers in north and east Afghanistan. When Haqqani, who was described by (the real life) Charlie Wilson as "goodness personified", was placed on the U.S. most-wanted list right after Osama bin Laden and Mullah Omar, Wilson commented, "That did give me pause for thought".

To train these insurgents the CIA set up training camps dubbed 'car bomb universities' where U.S. Special Forces experts provided terrorist tools and techniques to Pakistani instructors. This operation has been called "the greatest transfer of terrorist technology in history" and for nearly two decades provided a steady flow of terrorist graduates. The two most famous alumni are Ramzi Yousef, who attempted to blow up the World Trade Center with a truck bomb, and his uncle, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the

purported mastermind of 9/11.

By 1992, America had covertly arranged for between \$6 to \$12 billion dollars of small arms to be given to Afghan insurgents resulting in Afghanistan having more small arms than any other country in the world. There is a growing consensus that small arms must be considered "de facto weapons of mass destruction" because of their proven ability to utterly destroy the countries they are unleashed into. Just imagine the chaos of a society where every male suddenly has an assault rifle giving them the power to kill 20 people in 15 seconds. The reason Afghanistan looks post-apocalyptic is because the USA and USSR engaged in what amounted to 'proxy nuclear war' in Afghanistan waged with conventional weaponry. An actual nuclear exchange on Afghan soil might have been much less devastating to the country than the decades of war it continues to endure.

A covert operation that 'nukes' a country and becomes the plot for two Hollywood movies would not seem very secret, but go online and download a major Canadian government policy paper called "Independent Panel on Canada's Future Role in Afghanistan". Go to its' sixth appendix, an Afghanistan chronology, and look up the decade I just finished covering here (1979 - 89), you will find a very real example of what 'covert' means - and why I felt obligated to write this article.

Elders visit U of S

LETTER SUBMISSION

Three inspiring Elders spoke from the heart on February 2nd at the University of Sudbury. The Department of Native Studies was host to "Neyaap ji-nasastaming edming Bimaadzowin", "Bringing Back the Understanding of the Good Life", with teachings from our Elders.

Three Elders: Julie Ozawagosh - First Nation; Winnie Pitawanakwat - Inuit and Marie-Claire Vignola - Metis spoke their truth and shared their wisdom in regards to the traditions to maintain health and well-being from infancy to Elderhood. It was a befitting occasion since storytelling is traditionally held during the Winter.

Julie O, as most people call her stated that "it's through the people in her life that she learned" and invites us to "teach when we can because we all get our turn". Her view of an Elder is to be one. The rich experience and messages we all receive while attending these teachings is inspiring. Winnie retold her life growing up in an Inuit community. The laughter was abundant as she shared her views about many life experiences. Her wisdom is evident as she asks us to "give ourself the long goal, but watch our little steps". As an Inuit woman, where darkness prevails she learned at 17 years old while in Salem Oregon, that the solar cycles were different from home in that we get a fairly equal

amount of sunlight and darkness. Marie-Claire shared that she has maintained her health by remaining grateful and teaches us not to look at what we lack in our life. Discipline is an important value which keeps us healthy as well as traditional events. The family and community are important aspects of a person's well-being.

The Elders maintain that our: spiritual, physical, mental and emotional well-being begin as a child and are connected to the earth and the world around us as we grow.

Canisius Hall was full to the brim, as students, faculty and the general public came together as a family to listen to the stories and wisdom.



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Monogamous brains just a fantasy: study

VICTORIA (CUP) — Who are you fantasizing about this Valentine's Day? According to a recent study, apparently only 16 per cent said their lover.

The rest, are singularly focused on not being singularly focused.

University of Vermont researchers surveyed 178 sexually-active adults, and found that 84 per cent admitted that, while making love, they fantasized about having sex with others. That's not all — the secretive lovers also frequently fantasized about sex that was kinkier than what they actually did, or wanted to do.

Some common fantasies included sex in public, group sex or bondage. Perhaps the most significant finding: One quarter of all surveyed expressed "significant guilt" about their fantasies, calling them immoral, abnormal and harmful to their relationships.

It may come as a surprise then, that when researchers surveyed the participants about their sexual satisfaction, those who fantasized the most enjoyed the greatest sexual pleasure and suffered fewer sex problems. Meanwhile, those who felt guilty about their fantasies tended to be sexually dissatisfied and reported the most sex problems.

Sam Quinn is the founder and president of Sagacity, a kink and fetish resource in Victoria, B.C., which serves both university students and community members. Quinn says it's common for people to find challenges with sharing their fantasies, but she still sees its importance.

"When you share your fantasies with a partner, you risk judgment and the fear that your partner will be shocked or offended by what you fantasize about.

"Another potential pitfall of sharing your fantasies is jealousy — who wants to find out that while they are making love to you, you are fantasizing about the girl next door?" she said. "Sometimes, a fantasy loses its attraction if you share it. In the world of fantasy, never doing it can be very exciting."

Yet despite the supporting statistics and viewpoints, the real shocker comes in knowing that 85 per cent of people polled have never even shared their deepest fantasies, let alone acted them out, according to a study performed last year by Brett Kahr, a British psychotherapist and author of *Who's Been Sleeping In Your Head: The Secret World of Sexual Fantasies*.

Kahr found that, within his polled audience, closer to 90 per cent of adults fantasize about someone other than the person they're having sex with. He also found 41 per cent imagine sex with someone else's partner, 39

per cent fantasize about sex with a work colleague, 25 per cent fantasize about celebrities and the list goes on.

Kahr discovered a relatively low number of women — 28 per cent — fantasize about sex with two men, while 58 per cent of women fantasize about sex with two women. On the kinkier side, 25 per cent of people fantasize about being tied up, with 18 per cent of men and seven per cent of women fantasizing about spanking someone. Yet, 11 per

cent of men and 13 per cent of women fantasize about being spanked.

Numbers aside, Quinn believes that, overall, sex and sexuality is more open in 2011 than it has been in the past. Though she admits fantasies are largely only accepted by society so long as they stay fantasies.

"Fantasy is thinking outside the box. When we are creating fantasies, we are using our imagination to create unrestrained, extravagant, wild,

bizarre, images or actions that we believe may never happen in our real-world relationships," she said. "Fantasy breaks down boundaries, the generally accepted rules of behavior, and allows you to question your reality, or your relationship, and that can be scary."

So what is it that keeps us from just investing in what's right in front of us? After all, we chose our partners for some reason, didn't we? Quinn sees playing out fantasy like taking a vacation —

it's not that you don't enjoy your current life, it's just nice to have the variety.

"A bedroom fantasy played out is like a mini-holiday from your boring bedroom routine. Turning your fantasies into realities can also be therapeutic," said Quinn. "It can help revive a relationship, or can help an individual overcome a personal fear. Shared fantasies can also be a very powerful — a deep, dark secret shared by two people is a binding experience."



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WATERLOO | ENVIRONMENT

JP Laurentian is Hawkeye

BY ED VILLEUX

JP is witty, at-home on the cutting-edge of technology, and has superb accuracy (with a hockey stick, anyways).

For those who know JP, he can be a prankster. He keeps the mood light, but knows when it's time to get serious and down to work.

Hawkeye is exactly that. Serving as a regular member in the Avengers, New Avengers, West Coast Avengers, Thunderbolts and Force Works over the years, he's a staple and a safebet in any world-class superteam.

Managing Laurentian's social media presence, JP is always on his toes and responds quickly to student concerns.

Much like his superhero counterpart, JP works under Captain America (Chris Mercer, see last issue).

In the physical department, JP is blonde and athletic, much like his superhero counterpart.

He is quick-footed, but not scared of contact when need be, out in the rink. Armed with Twitter and Facebook, JP is free to launch written arrows of cleverness or fact, to make LU's online presence known.

Although I haven't caught JP wearing purple yet, he is bound to have a purple shirt. It's a popular colour, these days. Or maybe he only wears it when out, fighting crime.

eddy_veilleux@hotmail.com

Illustrations provided by Marvel Comics

Hawkeye is a prominent figure and lovable character in both Marvel's Ultimate universe (top) and in classic Marvel comics.



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Wolves break Spirit

Friday, February 11, 2011

11

BY JOHN LANGDON

After pulling off a road win in Sault Ste. Marie on Tuesday night against their northern Ontario rival, the Soo Greyhounds, the Sudbury Wolves returned home for action on Friday against the Western Conference leading Saginaw Spirit.

In a game that marked the return of former Wolves players John McFarland and Ben Chiarot since being traded to Saginaw earlier this season, the home team spoiled the return for their former teammates by thumping the Spirit 8-2 in front of 3,353 fans at Sudbury Community Arena.

The Wolves were led by rookie Mathew Campagna, who earned the game's first star selection after registering 1 goal and 3 assists in the win.

"I was just having fun and working hard," Campagna said. "It was probably one of my best games of the season but the whole team clicked. Scoring eight goals against the number one team in the West, you must be doing something right," the rookie added.

Campagna, who won a gold medal with Team Ontario at the 2011 IIHF World Under-17 Championship in Winnipeg, admitted that scoring against a couple of former teammates brings some satisfaction. "Getting a four-point night was exciting and fun, and especially to score it against the old teammates," the Mississauga native said.

Although rookies like Campagna and Russian-born Andrey Kuchin, who tallied 1 goal and 1 assist for Sudbury, led the way offensively, it was certainly a collective effort from everyone wearing a Wolves jersey that helped register the win.

Goaltender Alain Valiquette picked up his 19th win of the season by turning aside 33 Saginaw shots, including all 14 the veteran netminder faced in the opening frame which saw the Wolves being outshot 14-6.

Moving from the crease to the blueline, the Wolves defencemen contributed in a big way, both in their own zone and on the scoresheet, as Sudbury's backend generated a combined 3 goals and 7 points on Friday. Defenceman Justin Sefton netted his third goal in as many games by opening the scoring against the Spirit.

The 6'3", 200 pound blueliner was quick to credit his teammates and coaching staff for his recent success.

"If it wasn't for the guys giving me the puck, then I wouldn't be getting those points anyway," Sefton said. "The coaches help me in practice and things are starting to come together now."

It wasn't all good news on Friday, however, as injuries continued to haunt the Wolves. Marcus Foligno left the game nearing the end of the first period after being driven into the boards on a clean check by Spirit defenceman, and former Wolves player, Peter Hermerigildo. The Wolves captain was helped off of the ice while limping to the dressing room.

The loss of Foligno is just one of several notable Wolves injuries of late. Forward Michael MacDonald was sidelined four to six weeks due to an upper body injury, which he suffered against the Soo Greyhounds on Tuesday, while Brody Silk is expected to be out of the line-up for at least ten days.

Former Saginaw Spirit forwards Michael Sgarbossa and Alex Racino, who were also suffering from injuries recently, returned to the Wolves line-up on Friday.

Sgarbossa, along with defenceman Frank Schumacher, who was also shipped to Sudbury in exchange for McFarland and Chiarot, both found the back of the net against their former club.

With the win, Sudbury (20-26-2-1) has now won three consecutive games and seven of their last ten to pull within

five points of Brampton for the sixth seed in the OHL Eastern Conference standings.

The Wolves return to home action on Friday, February 11 when they host the Oshawa Generals at Sudbury Community Arena. Game time is scheduled for 7:30pm.

LU b-ball veterans honoured

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

Lady Vees basketball players Katie Goggins and Lisa Furchner played their last game on home court Saturday night.

Both girls hit 1,000 points this season, and were honoured at the end of the game.

Head coach Mike Clarke spoke glowingly about his star players.

"They are everything you should be as a student athlete," Clark says.

"Every practice they have both worked their butts off for five years, and they're both awesome students."

Clark knows it will be difficult losing two of his key veterans for next year.

"[Losing them] is going to hurt us a lot," Clarke says.

"They're very good and they're both experienced, and we're really young, and even younger next year."

Clark is certain they will be all-stars this year, and feels they truly are special players and people.

"They're both going to be all-stars this year," Clark says.

"They're both really special kids."

Goggins couldn't believe how fast the five years flew by.

"It's been great, but it's gone by really quick," Goggins says.

"I had a great experience here, it was awesome."

Goggins has applied to med school, and also to start a master's degree next year.

She believes the hardest part of next year will be missing her former teammates.

"I'm going to miss a lot of girls, it's always hard," Goggins says.

Furchner also felt the time flew by.

"It's been a blur, but I've grown up so much as a student, a player, and a person," Furchner says.

Furchner is looking at getting into her career of choice next year.

"I'm looking at getting a teaching job next year in Sudbury," Furchner says.

Despite moving on next year, Furchner is hoping to catch as many games as she can.

"We'll be able to come out and see the games," Furcher says.

Furchner is hoping to be the team's number one fan. ay_veilleux@laurentian.ca

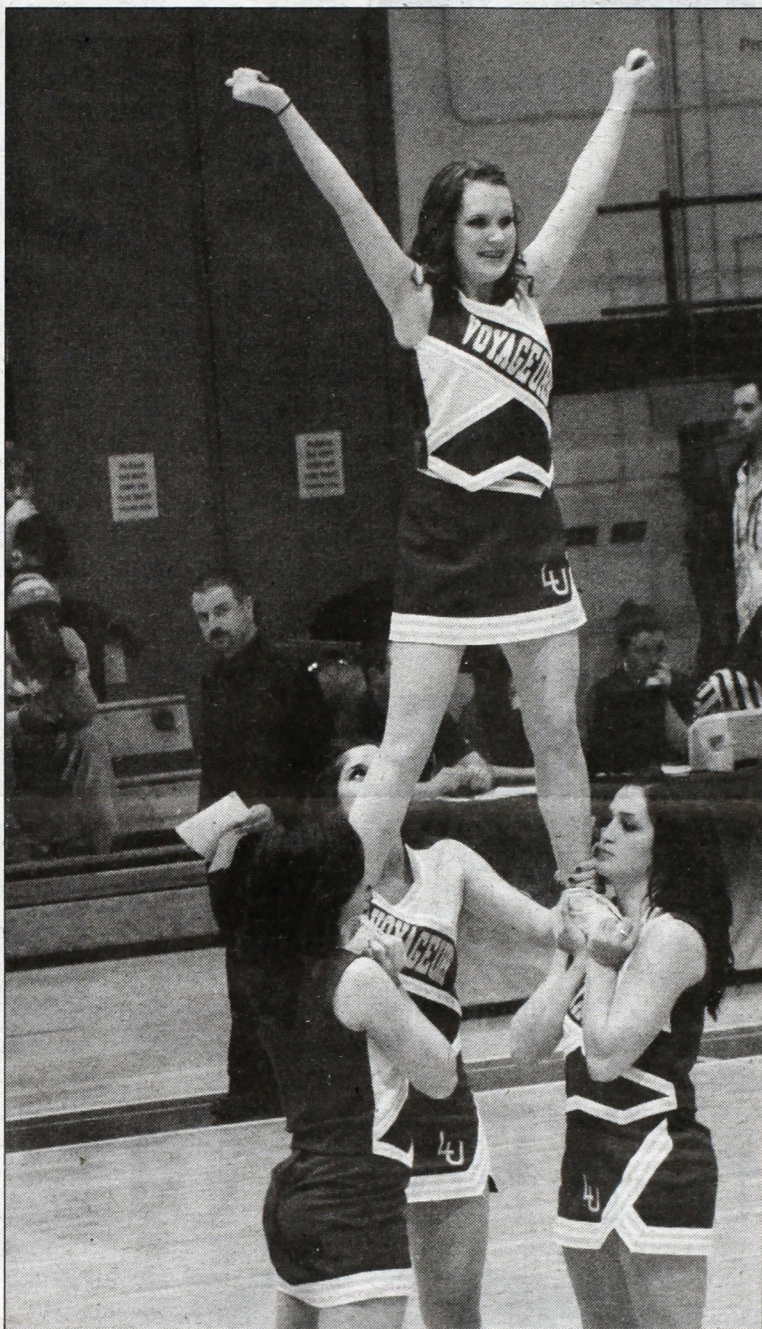


Photo by Andy Veilleux

Cheerleaders entertain fans at Laurentian's home game against Ottawa.

Intramural sports recap

The People Who Make it Happen: Emily Pypker

BY MEGAN TEBOGT

Emily Pypker is a participant in LU Intramurals and has been selected as one of the "People Who Make it Happen" for her amazing performance as a goalie for her competitive indoor soccer team, the Dream Team. The team placed second overall. Emily is from Newmarket, Ontario and is in the Gerontology Program.

Emily enjoys playing all sports including soccer, volleyball, hockey, and football. In high school she was on her school soccer team and was also a part of her school's physical education leadership program. At Laurentian she has been involved with intramural indoor and outdoor soccer and volleyball. Emily's favourite thing about the intramural sports program is that there are many opportunities to get involved in a wide range of different sports with your

friends. She also likes that it is run by students.

The Department of Active Living is appreciative of Emily's sportsmanship and team spirit. Thank you for helping us live up to our motto of "fitness, friendship, and fun!"

Laurentian University Intramural Indoor Soccer Season Comes to a Close

BY LACHLAN MACGREGOR

This year's COED Intramural Indoor Soccer league has officially come to a close. Many teams came out throughout the month of January to take part in fun and competition. The league was divided into one competitive, and two non-competitive divisions. Congratulations to the championship teams, the Multiple Scorer's and the Party Boys in the non-competitive divisions, and The Assassins in

the competitive division.

Many thanks goes out to all those involved in organizing the league and to all the participants who showed up each night ready to play. The Department of Active Living looks forward to having another successful season next year!

Laurentian university Intramural Volleyball

BY KELSEY LAPLANTE

Registration for Laurentian Intramural COED 6X6 Volleyball was a tremendous success. With a total of 31 teams registered it is shaping up to be a great year for 6X6 COED Volleyball. Our first night of play began on Tuesday February 1st and games will end on March 15th. We are excited to announce our special "themed" nights, as whichever team has the best turn-out is eligible for prizes and points towards the possibility of getting into the finals, even if they are not the team with the most wins. Our theme nights include jersey

night, wacky hair night, and colours night. Jersey night and wacky hair day are fairly self-explanatory but colours night is where each team will be assigned a certain colour and will try their best to dress in that colour from head to toe. Some of our prizes and sponsors include Orange Drop, East Side Mario's, Tutti Frutti, Gloria's Restaurant, and First Choice Hair Cutters along with many others! Each participant this year will be receiving a free t-shirt on the first night of play. Games take place every Tuesday and Thursday night running from 9pm until midnight. Laurentian Intramurals are all about fitness, friendship and fun and there is no better way to accomplish all three than to participate in them. If you have any questions or want more information for other Laurentian University intramural sport events going on please feel free to contact the Department of Active Living Office (Ext. 1018 or 1082). Check out our website at www.feeltheluv.ca for standings and further information!

Tough weekend for Voyageurs

BY JOHN LANGDON

After falling to the Carleton Ravens on Friday night, the Laurentian Voyageurs men's basketball team returned to action on Saturday when they hosted the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees.

Fans packed Ben Avery Gym in support of the Voyageurs for their final home game of the regular season, however, Laurentian failed to split their weekend games as Ottawa picked

up an 86-72 win.

Isiah Pasquale led Laurentian with 19 points and 6 rebounds in a losing effort.

Voyageurs head coach Shawn Swords was frustrated with the result.

"It was a little frustrating that we couldn't get together for forty minutes and play," Swords said. "We had some good stuff in practice this week and I thought it was going to really show this

weekend, but it didn't."

The two teams exchanged points throughout the first half before Ottawa carried a 36-33 lead into halftime. After a shaky third quarter in which the home team was outworked at both ends of the court, the Voyageurs managed to remain in the game, trailing 57-50.

Despite keeping the game close, Swords was critical of his team's performance.

"I don't think we played well at all in the first half and even in the third quarter, but we were still in the game," the Voyageurs coach added. "If we can come together and play together for ten minutes it's an opportunity to win the game."

Ottawa took control of the game in the fourth quarter where they went on a 17-7 run in a span of 3:22, causing Laurentian to call timeout.

The Voyageurs didn't have an answer for Ottawa's Johnny Berhanemeskel who caught on fire in the fourth quarter by dropping 17 points in the final frame. The first year guard finished with a game-high 31 points while shooting 5 for 7 from behind the arc.

Despite the loss, Swords and his coaching staff remain focused on what lies ahead for their team.

"Now, we go back to the drawing board and we have three games left and then hopefully, a playoff game after that," the coach said.

The Voyageurs return to action this weekend for a two game road trip when they travel to Kingston to take on the RMC Paladins on Friday and the Queen's Gaels on Saturday.



Photos by Andy Veilleux

The Voyageur "dougies" during Saturday's game against the Ottawa Gee-gees.

Lady Vees lose two at home

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

The Lady Vees played against a strong Ottawa Gee-gees team Saturday night,

Eventually losing in a hard-fought battle.

The Lady Vees were neck-and-neck with their opponent until early in the second quarter.

The girls lost one of their star players, Katie Goggins, to an ankle injury, as the Ottawa Gee-gees went on a 10-0 run to start the second. Laurentian was only down by four points when Goggins went down with the injury.

"I thought we played well, and it was a learning experience," Goggins says. "We just got out-rebounded and out-hustled, but it was a good game."

Coach Mike Clark was adamant about Goggins' importance to the team.

"Katie is very important to us, but she's especially important against that team, because we need her ball handling," Clark says.

The team had 28 turnovers in the game.

Despite the loss, Clark was impressed with his team's performance.

"I was very happy with the way our young players stepped up," Clark says. "We got better and learned some lessons, but it was almost impossible for us to

win after [Goggins was injured.]"

Clark wasn't overly worried about Goggins' injury in terms of how much time she would miss.

"It's a re-injury of an ankle sprain she had before, so I think it's going to heal up pretty quick," Clark says.

"She'll get another chance to see the court."

Goggins is upset that the injury caused her to miss most of the game.

"Today was the worst day for it, I wanted to play so bad," Goggins says.

"Not being able to play was the worst."

Goggins felt the game was a close one, and that the team learned a few valuable lessons.

"I thought we played well, and it was a learning experience," Goggins says. "We just got out-rebounded and out-hustled, but it was a good game."

Goggins is optimistic about her team's chances in the playoffs.

"All the teams we're going to face in the play-offs, if we make the play-offs, we've had close games with," Goggins says. "I'm thinking it's only one game at a time, we can pull off the upset."

Clark has a simple answer when asked about the playoffs.

"We control our own destiny," Clarke says.

"I feel pretty good about it."

The Lady Vees also dropped Friday's game to Carleton, by a score of 67-64.

The Lady Vees play against RMC and Queen's this weekend on the road.

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Laurentian hosts OUA nordic skiers

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

Laurentian's nordic skiing team was well-represented at the OUA championships this weekend at Laurentian.

The girls skied their way to a team silver medal overall.

The girls were led by OUA all-stars Candace Ball, Janel Sauder, Karyne Carriere, Lindsay Anderson and Kyla Vanderzwet.

The boys were led by all-star Evan Odell.

Coach Bob Hanson was happy with the weekend, but believes his boys deserved a better result.

"I am satisfied with the women's results, the men are better than their results show, however there are many things that can and do happen in ski racing," Hanson says.

Hanson was most impressed by the performance of Karyne Carriere.

"The big surprise of the weekend is Karyne Carriere, she had great results," Hanson says.

"It must have been her fan club from Pembroke."

Skier Konrad Wiltmann was also impressed with Carriere's performance, and her season as a whole.

"Carriere has been having a breakthrough season," Wiltmann says.

"She has really improved her skiing and racing from last year."



Photo supplied
Marlee Clement skis in the relay action in the OUA Championships Sunday morning at Laurentian University.

Wiltmann was also impressed with Petri Bailey's year.

Skier Lindsay Anderson, who placed sixth in the women's 7.5km classic, was happy with the races.

"The races went really well this weekend," Anderson says.

"The weather cooperated nicely and

warmed up the snow, resulting in fast skiing conditions."

Wiltmann was happy with his races, despite going the wrong way in his classic race.

"I may have gone the wrong way in my classic race, but I mostly redeemed myself in the skate race and the sprint relay the next day," he jokes.

Wiltmann believes the team has had a solid year, despite it being a rebuilding year.

"I'd say we had a pretty good year, even though it was a bit of a transitional year," Wiltmann says.

"We had lots of new, young skiers and a few bumps and bruises to iron out."

Anderson was also happy with the team's improvement this season, and is looking forward to more success next season.

"All in all, there were some big improvements from last year, both on an individual basis and as an entire team," Anderson says.

"We're pretty fortunate as we will not be losing a lot of athletes next year, and our coaches are working hard to recruit some new talent."

The team's season is not over, even though the university circuit is over, according to Anderson.

The team will race this upcoming weekend in the Eastern Canadian Championships in Ottawa.

Laurentian's women's nordic skiing results:

Karyne Carriere placed fifth in women's 7.5km classic and ninth in the women's 7.5km freestyle. Lindsay Anderson placed sixth in the women's 7.5km classic and 12th in the women's 7.5km freestyle. Candace Ball placed seventh in the women's 7.5km classic and fifth in the women's 7.5km freestyle. Janel Sauder placed eighth in the women's 7.5km classic and third in the women's 7.5km freestyle. Marlee Clement placed 27th in the women's 7.5km classic and 25th in the women's 7.5km freestyle. Emily Townend placed 34th in the women's 7.5km classic and 36th in the women's 7.5km freestyle.

In the relay, Sauder and Ball finished third, while Anderson and Carriere finished sixth.

Laurentian's men's nordic skiing results:

Evan Odell placed seventh in the men's 7.5km classic, and fourth in the 7.5km freestyle. Petri Bailey placed 12th in the men's 7.5km classic, and 17th in the men's 7.5km freestyle. Konrad Wiltmann placed 29th in the 7.5km classic, and eighth in the 7.5km freestyle. Andrew Kendall placed 31st in the men's 7.5km classic, and 27th in the 7.5km freestyle. In the relay, Odell and Wiltmann finished fourth.

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